

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) An auxiliary mounting device for an in ceiling speaker system, comprising:

a ceiling reinforcing element; [[and]]

an elongate element[[,]] ; and

an intermediate element, the intermediate element mounted to the elongate element such that the intermediate element is capable of being in a horizontally slidable state and in a horizontally fixed state;

wherein the ceiling reinforcing element includes a flat plate portion provided horizontally on a rear surface of a ceiling plate and having an opening at a center portion thereof, and a vertical portion provided to extend vertically from the flat plate portion,

the elongate element is provided to extend on a horizontal plane,

the vertical portion is mounted to the elongate intermediate element such that the vertical portion is capable of being in a vertically slidable state and in a vertically fixed state, and

~~in the slidable state, the vertical portion is vertically slidable and displaceable with respect to the elongate element, and~~

~~in the fixed state, the vertical portion is fixed to the elongate element so as not to vertically displace~~

wherein the vertical portion is vertically slidable relative to the intermediate element and the elongate element when in the vertically slidable state and is vertically fixed relative to the intermediate element and the elongate element when in the vertically fixed state;

wherein the intermediate element is horizontally slidable relative to the elongate element when in the horizontally slidable state and is horizontally fixed relative to the elongate element when in the horizontally fixed state;

and wherein the vertical portion may be in the vertically slidable state when the intermediate element is in the horizontally fixed state, and wherein the vertical portion may be in the vertically fixed state when the intermediate element is in the horizontally slidable state.

2. (Original) The auxiliary mounting device for the in ceiling speaker system according to claim 1,

wherein the elongate element is one of a pair of elongate elements,

the vertical portion is one of a pair of vertical portions which are provided to extend vertically from the flat plate portion at substantially the opposite positions with the opening interposed between the pair of vertical portions, and

the pair of elongate elements are provided substantially in parallel with each other on the horizontal plane so as to respectively correspond to the pair of vertical portions.

3. (Currently amended) The auxiliary mounting device for the in ceiling speaker system according to claim 1, further comprising:

~~an intermediate element mounted to the elongate element,~~

~~wherein the vertical portion is capable of being in a slidable state in which the vertical portion is vertically slidable and displaceable with respect to the intermediate element and in a fixed state in which the vertical portion is fixed to the intermediate element so as not to vertically displace with respect to the intermediate element, and~~

~~the vertical portion is mounted to the elongate element with the intermediate element is disposed [[interposed]] between the vertical portion and the elongate element such that the vertical portion is capable of being in the slidable state and the fixed state.~~

4. (Canceled)

5. (Previously presented) The auxiliary mounting device for the in ceiling speaker system according to claim 1,

wherein the intermediate element includes a first mounting portion by which the intermediate element is mounted to the elongate element, and a second mounting portion by which the vertical portion is mounted to the intermediate element, and

the first mounting portion and the second mounting portion are located at different positions in a vertical direction.

6. (Original) The auxiliary mounting device for the in ceiling speaker system according to claim 5,

wherein the elongate element includes a first flat portion extending in band shape in the longitudinal direction of the elongate element, a second flat portion located adjacent the

first flat plate portion so as to extend in band shape in the longitudinal direction of the elongate element, and a third flat portion located adjacent the second flat portion so as to extend in band shape in the longitudinal direction of the elongate,

the first flat portion, the second flat portion, and the third flat portion form a substantially U-shape in a transverse cross-section of the elongate element, and

the second flat portion is provided with a mounting portion by which the intermediate element is mounted to the elongate element.

7. (Currently amended) The auxiliary mounting device for the in ceiling speaker system according to claim [[1]]5,

~~wherein in the slidable state, the vertical portion is slidable and displaceable with respect to the elongate element in the longitudinal direction of the elongate element, and in the fixed state, the vertical portion is fixed to the elongate element so as not to displace in the longitudinal direction of the elongate element~~

the first mounting portion has a horizontally extending slit.

8 – 10. (Canceled)

11. (New) An auxiliary mounting device for an in ceiling speaker system, comprising:

- an elongate element;
- an intermediate element mountable to the elongate element;
- the intermediate element horizontally adjustable in a direction parallel to the elongate element and arranged to be fixed relative to the elongate element in a plurality of horizontal positions;
- a ceiling reinforcing element, the ceiling reinforcing element including a central opening, a flat portion surrounding the central opening, and a vertical portion extending vertically relative to the flat portion, the vertical portion mountable to the intermediate element;
- the vertical portion vertically adjustable in a direction perpendicular to the elongate element and arranged to be fixed relative to the elongate element in a plurality of vertical positions; and

wherein the vertical portion may be horizontally adjusted to one of the plurality of horizontal positions while fixed in one of the plurality of vertical positions; and

wherein the vertical portion may be vertically adjusted to one of the plurality of vertical positions while fixed in one of the plurality of horizontal positions.

12. (New) The device of claim 11, wherein the intermediate element includes a first mounting portion having a pair of horizontally oriented slits for mounting to the elongate element and a second mounting portion disposed above the first mounting portion and having a pair of mounting holes for mounting to the vertical portion.

13. (New) The device of claim 12, wherein the elongate element comprises a vertically oriented flat portion, the horizontally oriented slits and the pair of mounting holes formed in the flat portion.

14. (New) An auxiliary mounting device for an in ceiling speaker system, comprising:

- an elongate element;
- an intermediate element;
- the elongate element and the intermediate element mounted to one another by at least one horizontally oriented slit to permit sliding horizontal adjustment of the intermediate element relative to the elongate element between a plurality of horizontally fixed positions;
- a ceiling reinforcing element, the ceiling reinforcing element including a central opening, a flat portion surrounding the central opening, and a vertical portion extending vertically relative to the flat portion;
- the vertical portion and the intermediate element mounted to one another by at least one vertically oriented slit to permit sliding vertical adjustment of the vertical portion relative to the intermediate element between a plurality of vertically fixed positions;
- wherein the vertical portion may be horizontally adjusted relative to the elongate element while in one of the plurality of vertically fixed positions; and
- wherein the vertical portion may be vertically adjusted relative to the elongate element and the intermediate element while in one of the plurality of horizontally fixed positions.

15. (New) The device of claim 14, wherein the intermediate element is disposed parallel to the elongate element.